IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 5-8, 14, 16-18, 22, and 23 without prejudice or disclaimer as to the subject matter contained therein.

Please amend the claims as shown in the following claims listing.

1.   (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

detecting an error in data stored in a directory cache in a system;

determining if the detected error is correctable; ~~and~~

while the system is in operation:

   making at least a portion of the directory cache unavailable to one or more resources in the system in response to determining that the error is uncorrectable, wherein making at least the portion of the directory cache unavailable comprises generating a cache miss in response to a request to access the directory cache;

   testing the at least a portion of the directory cache while the at least a portion of the directory cache is offline based on determining that the error is uncorrectable;

   servicing the at least a portion of the directory cache in response to testing the directory cache; and

   dynamically placing the allowing access to the at least a portion of the directory cache in response to servicing the at least a portion of the directory cache.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting the error comprises detecting the error in the data using error correction code.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein determining if the detected error is correctable comprises determining that the detected error is a multi-bit error.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining if the detected error is correctable comprises determining that the detected error is an address parity error.

5-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

   a directory cache that is associated with a domain and adapted to store at least one entry; and

   a control unit adapted to:

   determine if at least one uncorrectable error exists in the directory cache; and

   place at least a portion of the directory cache offline in response to determining that the error is uncorrectable, wherein placing at least the portion of the directory cache unavailable comprises generating a cache miss in response to a request to access the directory cache;

   place the at least a portion of the directory cache offline while the domain remains active;

   test the directory cache while the at least a portion of the directory cache is offline in response to determining that the error is uncorrectable;

   cause the directory cache to be serviced in response to testing the directory cache; and

   place the at least a portion of the directory cache on-line in response to causing the directory cache to be serviced.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the directory cache is a three-way associative directory cache.

12.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the control unit determines if the entry contains a multi-bit error.

13.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein entry is an address bit entry, and wherein the control unit determines if the address parity bit entry contains an error.

14.   (Cancelled)

15.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the control unit provides a cache miss to a device requesting to access the directory cache while the directory cache is offline.

16-18 (Cancelled)

19.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the control unit places the directory cache online dynamically.

20.   (Currently amended) A ~~carrier~~ computer readable medium containing instructions that when executed enable a processor to:

      determine a multiple-bit error in data stored in a directory cache of a domain; ~~and~~

      isolate at least a portion of the directory cache from one or more resources in the domain while the domain is active, in response to determining the multiple-bit error[,];

      place the at least a portion of the directory cache offline while the domain remains active;

      wherein isolating at least the portion of the directory cache comprises generating a cache miss in response to a request to access the directory cache while the at least a portion of the directory cache is offline;

      dynamically test the at least the portion of the directory cache in response to isolating the directory;

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cause the directory cache to be serviced in response to testing the directory cache; and

dynamically restore the directory cache in the domain in response to causing the directory cache to be serviced.

21.   (Currently amended) The ~~carrier~~ computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to perform an ECC error check to determine the multiple-bit error in the data.

22-23. (Cancelled)

24.   (Currently amended) The ~~carrier~~ computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to provide a cause of the multiple-bit error.